



## Wisconsin Leaders Support the Waterfront Community Revitalization and Resiliency Act

“Waterfront cities all along the shores of the Great Lakes applaud Senator Baldwin for introducing the *Waterfront Community Revitalization and Resiliency Act*,” said **Racine Mayor John Dickert, board member of the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative**. “This bill will help our communities in the heartland of manufacturing continue evolving as economic engines for the region, with water as an economic driver.”

“Waterfronts have great potential to increase value, promote commerce, and add recreational amenities,” said **Milwaukee Mayor Tom Barrett**. “They deserve our protection and our investment.”

“Madison’s lakes are an integral part of our city as they provide recreation, business opportunities, alternative methods of transportation and a general feeling of well-being,” said **Madison Mayor Paul Soglin**. “The opportunity to partner with the federal government in improving and developing our shorelines in a sustainable manner would be very welcomed.”

“Our lakes are an integral part of the quality of life that keeps bringing new businesses, jobs, and families to Dane County,” said **Dane County Executive Joe Parisi**. “Senator Baldwin truly understands that by improving waters, we’re investing in and enhancing our communities and our economy.”

“Here in La Crosse, the Mississippi River is the driving force for our economy, our natural resources, cultural heritage and tourism,” said **La Crosse Mayor Tim Kabat**. “I applaud Senator Baldwin’s *Waterfront Community Revitalization and Resiliency Act* because it helps to support our local effort to revitalize and enhance our historic riverfront and take the necessary steps to address flooding issues and climate resiliency.”

“I am very grateful to Senator Baldwin for her efforts in addressing a great need facing the City of Ashland,” said **Ashland Mayor Deb Lewis**. “We have experienced at least two ‘fifty year storms’ in the past few years and we are in great need of funding to upgrade our coastal infrastructure. In addition, the City of Ashland is entering the design phase for long term development of our newly acquired ore dock base as well as our lakeshore. This bill, if passed, would provide unique economic development opportunities for Ashland that are not currently available.”

“I believe the *Waterfront Community Revitalization and Resiliency Act* has the potential to be enormously impactful on communities like our own in Port Washington,” said **Port Washington Mayor Tom Mlada**. “The need is significant for focused attention, collaboration and resources here in Port Washington and waterfront communities throughout the nation, and this bill as proposed could serve to advance all areas of this need. This will present waterfront communities like Port Washington with the tools and support we need to ensure successful outcomes of our waterfront redevelopment and resiliency planning efforts.”

“I support the *Waterfront Community Revitalization and Resiliency Act* and encourage the passage of this bill as soon as possible,” said **Onalaska Mayor Joe Chilsen**. “As a waterfront community, Onalaska needs these types of legislative initiatives to keep economic development thriving while leveraging the most out of the assets we share with the country as a whole.”

“The City of Beloit, the Gateway to Wisconsin, believes that innovative ways to revitalize riverfronts are essential to economic development and growth opportunities,” said **Lori Curtis Luther, Beloit City Manager**.

“Our lakefront on Lake Superior is one of our most precious assets,” said **Bayfield Mayor Larry MacDonald**. “Any program that helps us promote and protect this is of utmost importance to our community.”

“The *Waterfront Community Revitalization and Resiliency Act* will help La Crosse County protect, strengthen and maximize our most recognizable and valuable natural asset – the Mighty Mississippi River,” said **La Crosse County Board Chair Tara Johnson**. “We welcome Senator Baldwin’s efforts to promote economic, ecosystem and community resiliency along our waterfront.”

“Protecting healthy shorelines and investing in environmentally sound economic development are important issues to families in the Coulee Region and across Wisconsin,” said **State Senator Jennifer Shilling, 32nd Senate District**. “By helping local communities plan ahead and make needed infrastructure investments, we can preserve our natural waterways, create jobs and promote responsible land use.”

“I am thrilled to see legislation giving more opportunity for waterfront communities. This act deals with water resources in a sensible way by not only investing in protection for communities, but bringing more direct economic investment to the area,” said **State Representative Jill Billings, 95th Assembly District**. “Because of La Crosse’s proximity to the Mississippi River, homeowners and businesses in the area often have to deal with issues like storms, floods and fluctuating lake levels adversely affecting their properties. In addition, as we transition from an historic riverboat town, where the riverfront was used for transportation purposes, to a thriving 21st century community the redevelopment and revitalization of our riverfront is vital to La Crosse’s continued growth and success.”

“The *Waterfront Community Revitalization and Resiliency Act* will allow communities like La Crosse and Onalaska to continue to preserve our treasured waterfront along the Mississippi River,” said **State Representative Steve Doyle, 94th Assembly District**.

“Investing in Wisconsin waterfronts will be a big win for our local communities,” said **State Senator Kathleen Vinehout**. “Enhancing public access opportunities and protecting our waterfronts for generations to come is a great way to promote our state’s rich tourism tradition.”

“The City of De Pere, and other communities located on waterways, need help to revitalize our waterfront areas and make them more viable to our communities,” said **DePere Mayor Michael Walsh**. “Senator Tammy Baldwin’s Waterfront Community Revitalization and Resiliency Act will certainly help all communities like us to more easily redevelop underused waterfronts, provide public access, and improve our quality of life.”

Additional Wisconsin leaders supporting the *Waterfront Community Revitalization and Resiliency Act*:

De Pere Mayor Michael Walsh

Douglas County Board Chair Douglas Finn

Green Bay Mayor Jim Schmitt

La Crosse Area Development Corporation Executive Director Jim Hill

Manitowoc Mayor Justin Nickels

Oconto Mayor Victoria Bostedt

Sheboygan Mayor Michael Vandersteen

Superior Mayor Bruce Hagen

Washburn Mayor Scot Griffiths

Wausau Mayor James Tipple

Wisconsin Rapids Mayor Zach Vruwink